



# Santa Clara Police Training Flash



## Domestic Violence Strangulation Program Extension

The funding for the strangulation forensic medical exam and for victim advocate accompaniment (and related services) has been extended in Santa Clara County thru June 2022.

The initial timeline for the strangulation forensic medical exam was that it had to have occurred within a 10-day period. That timeline has been extended to a 14-day period.

Please encourage the victims to participate in the exam by explaining:

- It is a non-invasive exam, in which medical staff will take photographs and measurements of injuries
- It will help victims obtain additional medical care immediately
- It will assist victims in obtaining future medical services quicker
- It will connect victims with a variety of county resources

The DA requests we continue to offer victims the option to participate in the forensic medical exam. Per the DA statistics, when an exam has been completed on a victim, their successful prosecution of the suspect increases.

### Signs and Symptoms of Strangulation

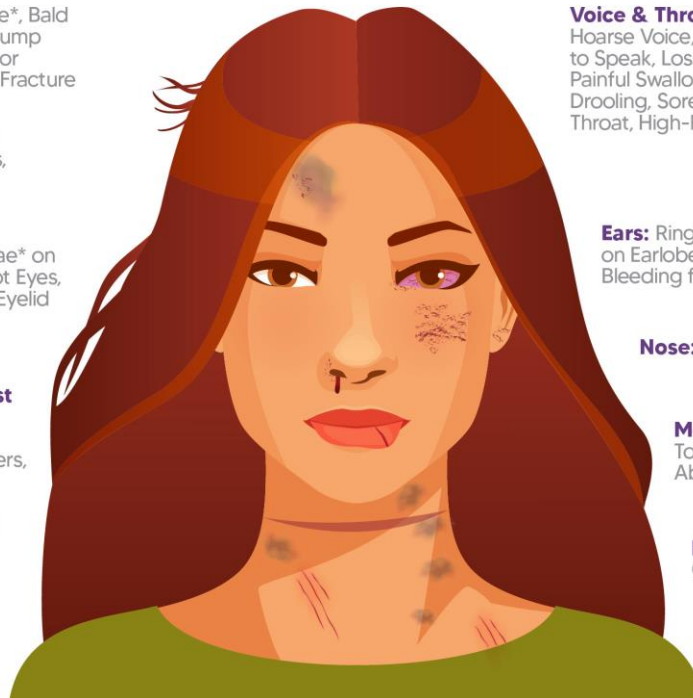
**Head & Scalp:** Petechiae\*, Bald Spots from Hair Pulling, Bump from Blunt Force Trauma or Falling, Concussion, Skull Fracture

**Face:** Petechiae\*, Slightly Red/Florid, Scratch Marks, Facial Drooping, Swelling

**Eyes & Eyelids:** Petechiae\* on Eyeball/Eyelids, Bloodshot Eyes, Vision Changes, Droopy Eyelid

**Under Chin, Neck, Chest & Shoulders:** Redness, Scratch Marks, Bruise(s) Made by Thumbs or Fingers, Abrasion(s), Fingernail Impressions, Swelling, Ligature Marks, Neck Pain

**Breathing Changes:** Difficulty Breathing, Inability to Breathe, Hyperventilation



**Voice & Throat Changes:** Raspy/Hoarse Voice, Coughing, Inability to Speak, Loss of Voice, Trouble/Painful Swallowing, Nausea, Vomiting, Drooling, Sore Throat, Clearing the Throat, High-Pitched Wheezing

**Ears:** Ringing Sound, Petechiae\* on Earlobe, Bruising Behind the Ear, Bleeding from the Ear

**Nose:** Bloody, Broken, Petechiae\*

**Mouth:** Bruising, Swollen Tongue/Lips, Cuts/Abrasions, Petechiae\*

**Fingertips:** Faint Circular/Oval Bruises

\*Petechiae - Red Spots